

BYTHENUMBERS

SC FORESTRY FACTS & FIGURES: FY2019-20

Forest Management

- 2,542 landowners assisted
- ▶ 1,264 cost-share, stewardship and/ or woodland exams performed, covering 69,386 acres
- SCFC personnel conducted 4,444 acres of prescribed burns, plowed 635 miles of firebreaks, performed 1,309 acres of prescribed-burn standbys and installed 95 waterbars

Fire Statistics

- 1,089 wildfires
- 6,232 acres burned
- 596 fires caused by debris burning, the No. 1 cause in SC (54.7% of all wildfires in SC in FY2019-20)
- 428,133 burn notifications handled by automated call center
- 10-year average: 1,709 fires / 11,824 acres burned

Fire Response

- The Commission's three dispatch centers field between 24,000 and 55,000 calls every year
- The average dispatch time for wildfires in FY2018-19 was 2 minutes, 18 seconds
- The average response time between report of wildfire and arrival of initial attack warden was 37.75 minutes

Investment

- ▶ \$521.9 million in forestry capital projects announced in FY2019-20
- ▶ 91 primary mills
- ~800 secondary mills
- 98,000+ forest industry jobs
- \$2.58 billion in labor income



Ownership

- More than 200,000 forest landowners in SC
- 87% of SC forests are privately owned
- 60% of private forests are family-owned
- The average "family forest" is 97.3 acres. 63% of these owners have their primary residence on the land
- Forest industries own 330,000 acres, down 84% since 2001
- Public agencies manage 13% of South Carolina's forests

Enforcement

- 39 sworn officers
- 381 fire investigations
- > 74 fire tickets, 14 game and fish cases 11 violations of state forest regulations, 10 miscellaneous cases, and 5 pine straw theft cases
- 4 arrests made for woods arson
- 122 timber theft/fraud cases
- ▶ \$11,543.50 in fines collected
- 48% or \$239,215 of timber theft/ fraud losses recovered for victims

Wood Supply

▶ There are 2 million more

- ▶ 12.9 million acres of forestland, composed of 52% hardwood and 48% softwood
- SC's forests now contain 26.6 billion cubic feet of wood, more than at any time in the past century
- acres of forestland in SC than there were in 1936.
- ► The state's forests, both hardwood and softwood, are growing more wood than is being harvested